



## News Release

**For Immediate Release**

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### **Two Additional Salmonella Cases Under Investigation**

*Public Health Officials Uncertain of Connection to Outbreak*

(Salt Lake City, UT) – The Utah Department of Health (UDOH) is investigating two additional cases of *Salmonella*. Laboratory testing is underway to determine if they are linked to the nationwide outbreak. These individuals have a travel history outside of Utah during the incubation period.

Utah does have one case of *Salmonella* Saintpaul that is linked to the nationwide outbreak. This individual reported eating tomatoes, but it is likely that this exposure occurred outside Utah.

Marilee Poulson, an epidemiologist with the UDOH says, “We have no evidence that people eating tomatoes in Utah have gotten sick from *Salmonella*, but we continue to monitor the situation for cases that could be linked to the outbreak.” Some but not all tomatoes have been implicated in this outbreak. Government officials are still working to determine the exact source and location of the affected tomatoes. For more information on which tomatoes are safe visit:

[www.fda.gov/oc/opacom/hottopics/tomatoes.html#retailers](http://www.fda.gov/oc/opacom/hottopics/tomatoes.html#retailers).

The major symptom of *Salmonella* is diarrhea, which may be accompanied by abdominal cramping, vomiting, and fever. If you think you may have *Salmonella*, you should see your doctor. Laboratory testing of stool is the only way to determine if you have *Salmonella* or if your illness is connected with this outbreak.

*Salmonella* is not an unusual disease; public health in Utah typically receives reports on

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over 200 cases per year. Common sources of *Salmonella* disease include undercooked poultry, raw or undercooked eggs, or contaminated produce. Be sure to thoroughly cook poultry and eggs, and wash produce before eating.

Another common way of acquiring *Salmonella* is through contact with lizards, turtles, baby chickens, and other animals. It is important to wash your hands or your child's hands thoroughly after handling or petting animals.

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*The mission of the Utah Department of Health is to protect the public's health through preventing avoidable illness, injury, disability and premature death, assuring access to affordable, quality health care, and promoting healthy lifestyles.*